



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural
Resources
Conservation
Service

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2001 Conservation Technical Assistance



Customer Focus—

High school students

throughout New Jersey are benefiting from Conservation Technical Assistance. NRCS and conservation partners provide conservation education through the New Jersey Envirothon competition each year. In FY2001 22 high schools participated in this hands-on, outdoor competition. Soil scientists, wildlife experts, biologists and other professional conservationists provided direct assistance to these students to help them prepare for and participate in this exciting program. New Jersey's team, from Kittatinny Regional High School, took fourth place in the National Envirothon last summer.

Community Assistance was provided to the town of Westfield after a huge population of Canada geese made their home along the lake in the town park. UCAP and NRCS staff successfully addressed water quality, soil erosion, and quality of life problems. The site was planted with native plants to repel the geese; stones were placed along the shore to discourage geese from landing by the lake; and fencing was installed around the entire lake to prevent the geese from moving between the lake and the walking path around the lake. Few Canada geese can now be seen in the park, and only minimal goose droppings are noted along the path. Water quality and quality of life have been greatly enhanced.

New Jersey Summary

Overview

In New Jersey, Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) funding contributes to conservation projects that range from agricultural practices for water quality protection and soil conservation, to community assistance activities in densely populated towns.

Accomplishments

NRCS works closely with the Soil Conservation Districts and the Urban Conservation Action Partnership (UCAP) in northeastern New Jersey to provide conservation technical assistance to communities. Water quality has improved through this assistance in many communities, for example, where geese populations have been reduced and soil erosion has been stemmed. Rivers that flow through urban areas have been revitalized through multi-faceted cleanup efforts. Farmers continue to receive conservation technical assistance from engineers and technicians for many non-Farm Bill funded projects through CTA funding. NRCS field staff help develop sustainable agricultural system plans (conservation plans) on farms participating in the State's multimillion dollar Farmland Preservation Program.

Outlook

The majority of New Jersey's funding for conservation activities comes from CTA allocations. Adequate CTA funding is critical for the citizens and municipalities of New Jersey to continue to receive the high quality service that they have come to expect from NRCS.

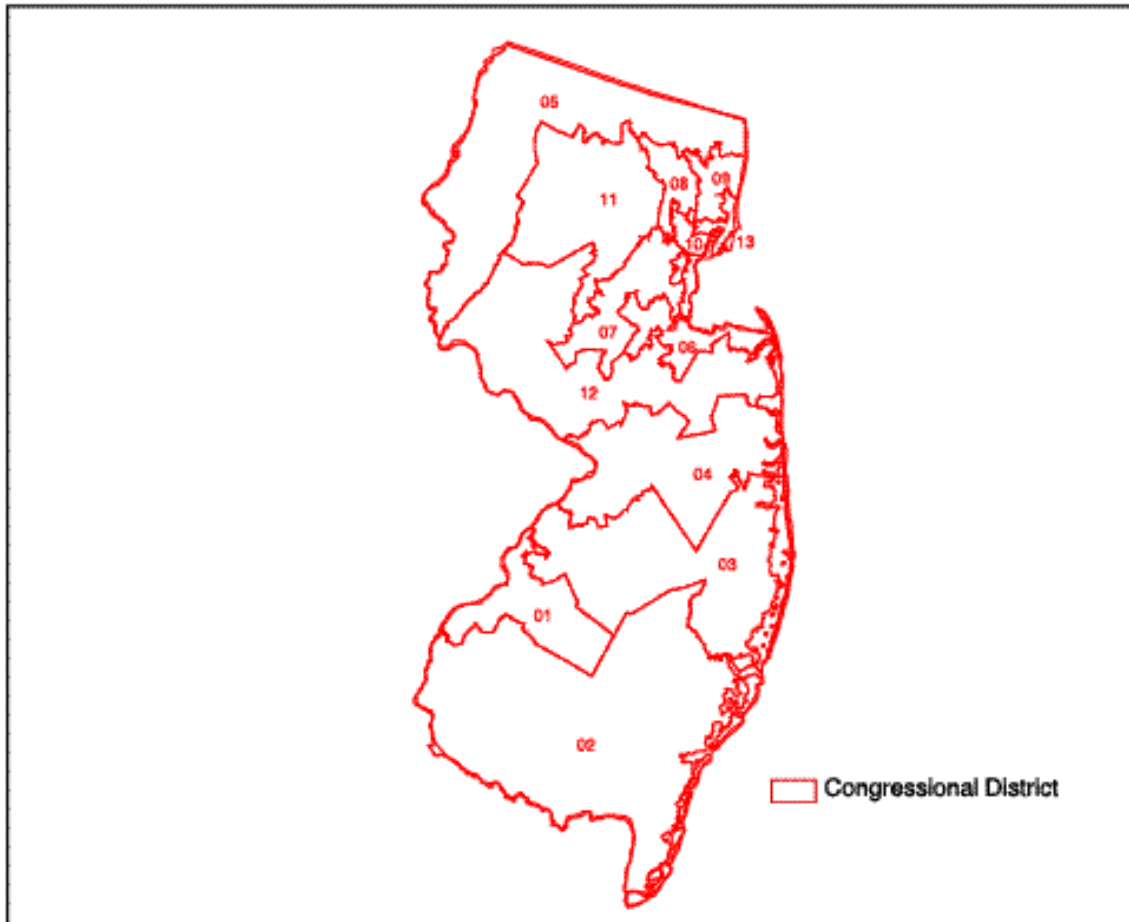
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High school students at
Wildlife Station.
New Jersey Envirothon.

New Jersey Congressional Districts



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